Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 12329 282259Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 PA-02 A-01 /033 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1675
INFO USICA WASHDC

UNCLAS MEXICO 12329

PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR VAKEY, ARA AND PAT KENNEDY, FM

EO 11652: N/A TAGS: AFSP, MEX

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL MAILING OF SPEECHES BY AMBASSADOR LUCEY

- 1. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY THE PRESS WITH REGARD TO THE MAILING OF SPEECHES AND SPEECH SUMMARIES BY THE EMBASSY TO MEDIA IN THE UNITED STATES. WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO PROVIDE YOU WITH BACKGROUND INFORMATION.
- 2. ON THREE OCCASIONS DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST YEAR, THE AMBASSADOR DELIVERED SPEECHES IN THE UNITED STATES ABOUT U.S.-MEXICAN RELATIONS -- TWO OF THESE OCCASIONS WERE CAMPUS SYMPOSIA, THE THIRD WAS TO THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT. SUMMARIES OF THE TEXTS OF THESE SPEECHES WERE COMMERCIALLY TELEGRAMMED TO NEWS MEDIA IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS WAS DONE WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OR AUTHORIZATION OF THE AMBASSADOR. THE ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE EMBASSY BECAME AWARE OF THE USE OF COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS AND CONTACTED THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE IMMEDIATELY. HE WAS ADVISED THAT SUCH AN EXPENSE HAD NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED, AND THAT ANY MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE USE OF COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 12329 282259Z

CORRECTED. EMBASSY OPERATING BUDGET FUNDS WERE USED TO COVER THE 12,251.73 DOLLAR COST OF THE THREE SETS OF TELE-GRAMS THAT WERE DISPATCHED.

3. THE FULL TEXT OF THE SPEECHES ON THESE THREE OCCASIONS WERE MAILED TO U.S. MEDIA IN EMBASSY ENVELOPES THROUGH REGULAR COMMERCIAL MAIL.

4. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF ITS MISSION TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE AND STATUS OF U.S.-MEXICAN RELATIONS TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND TO BORDER STATE, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL MEDIA. WE REGRET THAT A MISUNDERSTANDING RESULTED IN AN EXCESSIVE AND UNNECESSARY EXPENSE. LUCEY

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Subject: COMMERCIAL MAILING OF SPEECHES BY AMBASSADOR LUCEY

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To: STATE

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